I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

May 19, 2004

David R. Saliwanchik, Patent Attorney

PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) Examining Group 1638

Patent Application

Docket No. SPO-115C1

Serial No. 09/888,035

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner

Cynthia Collins

Art Unit

1638

Applicants

Atsunori Fukada and Yoshiyuki Tanaka

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Serial No

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June 22, 2001

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Sodium/Proton Antiporter Gene

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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PETITION AND FEE FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)

Sir:

The applicants request that the period for response be extended three months through and including June 3, 2004. Please charge the fee of \$950.00 to Deposit Account 19-0065.

Any additional fees as required by 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 should be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Respectfully submitted.

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Attachment: Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.116; and

Notice of Appeal